

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A joining structure in a laminate [[(1)]] comprising:
~~a plurality of metal layers; (3-6) as well as and~~
~~at least one adhesive layer (12) which is enclosed by the~~
~~plurality of metal layers (3-6), which said plurality of metal~~
~~layers (3-6) each comprise separate metal-layer parts (7,8)~~
~~having a first pair of overlapping edges (9,10), which said first~~
~~pairs of edges (9,10) are offset with respect to each other and~~
~~together define a continuous joining region [[(2)]],~~
~~characterized in that the laminate (1) comprises~~
~~a first section (14) which of said laminate is of standard~~
~~construction and a second section (15) which of said laminate~~
~~contains an additional, internal reinforcing metal layer (16),~~
~~said reinforcing metal layer (16) comprising two reinforcing~~
~~metal-layer parts (17,18) with a second pair of overlapping edges~~
~~(19,20), said second pair of edges (19,20) being located outside~~
~~the joining region.~~

2. (currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which wherein~~ each of the plurality of metal layers

{3—6} has a metal-layer part [[(7)]] with a joggled edge [[(9)]] in such a manner that the metal-layer parts ~~(7,8)~~ are substantially in line with one another.

3.(currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 2, ~~in which a~~ wherein one of said reinforcing metal-layer part ~~(17,18)~~ parts is joggled ~~(23)~~ over the joggled edge [[(9)]] of the joggled metal layer part [[(7)]] to form a joggled portion~~(26)~~.

4.(currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 3, ~~in which wherein~~ the joggled portion ~~(26)~~ of said one of the reinforcing metal-layer part parts ~~(17,18)~~ is then joggled ~~(24)~~ in the opposite direction towards the other, associated metal-layer part [[(8)]] to form a second joggled portion ~~(27)~~.

5.(currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 4, ~~in which wherein~~ said one of the reinforcing metal-layer part ~~(17)~~ parts is subsequently joggled ~~(25)~~ in the same direction as said joggled edge [[(9)]] of the joggled metal-layer part [[(7)]] over ~~the other~~ another one of said reinforcing metal-layer part~~(18)~~ parts to form a third joggled portion or joggled edge ~~(19)~~.

6. (currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 5, ~~in which wherein~~ a metal-layer part [[(7)]] of a further metal layer [[(6)]] extends over the portion ~~(27)~~, joggled ~~(24)~~ in the opposite direction, of the first one of reinforcing metal-layer part ~~(17)~~ parts to form a spacing between the edge [[(9)]] of the metal-layer part of the further metal layer [[(7)]] and the portion ~~(27)~~, joggled ~~(24)~~ in the opposite direction, of the first one of reinforcing metal-layer part ~~(17)~~ parts, in such a manner that the edge ~~(10)~~ of ~~the other another~~ metal-layer part [[(8)]] of the further metal layer [[(6)]] extends as far as the region where ~~this said~~ spacing occurs.

7. (currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 6, ~~in which wherein~~ the other metal-layer part [[(8)]] is joggled, from the region where ~~this said~~ spacing occurs, over the edge ~~(19)~~ of the reinforcing metal-layer part ~~(17)~~ joggled in the same direction, and is then joggled in the opposite direction.

8. (currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which wherein~~ the first and second pairs of edges ~~(9,10,19,20)~~ of the ~~reinforcing metal layer parts~~, in the direction transverse to the direction in which the first and second pairs of edges ~~(9,10,19,20)~~ overlap, are of different sizes in order to provide a stepped joggle arrangement ~~(28, 29)~~

of the metal layer [[(6)]] covering the reinforcing metal-layer parts ~~(17, 18)~~.

9. (currently amended) The joining structure as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein each adhesive layer ~~(12)~~ runs on continuously over the first and second parts of overlapping edges ~~(9, 10, 19, 20)~~.

10. (new) A joining structure in a laminate comprising:
a plurality of metal layers; and
at least one adhesive layer which is enclosed by the plurality of metal layers, said plurality of metal layers each comprise separate metal-layer parts having a first pair of overlapping edges, said first pairs of edges are offset from each other and immediately adjacent to each other and together define a joining region,

a first section of said laminate is of standard construction and a second section of said laminate contains an additional, internal reinforcing metal layer, said reinforcing metal layer comprising two reinforcing metal-layer parts with a second pair of overlapping edges, said second pair of edges being located outside the joining region.

11. (new) A joining structure and a laminate comprising:
a plurality of metal layers; and

at least one adhesive layer which is enclosed by the plurality of metal layers, said plurality of metal layers each comprise separate metal-layer parts having a first pair of overlapping edges, said first pairs of edges are offset with respect to each other and together define a joining region,

a first section of said laminate is of standard construction and includes said plurality of metal layers, and

a second section of said laminate includes said plurality of metal layers and contains an additional, internal reinforcing metal layer, said reinforcing metal layer comprising two reinforcing metal-layer parts with a second pair of overlapping edges, said second pair of edges being located outside the joining region, said reinforcing metal layer only being within said second section.